Busworld Brussels making a strong start

The 25th edition of Busworld will be held for the first time in Brussels. The familiar location in Kortrijk had become (far) too cramped for the ever-increasing interest of manufacturers, suppliers, the press and the public. The decision to relocate to Brussels was obvious with the international airport nearby, the extensive hotel accommodation and public transport facilities. In addition, Brussels Expo offers ample space to offer all exhibitors the space they need, as well as the opportunity to grow even further. In short, Busworld Brussels is making a strong start.

On a total covered area of 79,000 m² (approximately 66,000 m² net) including 9 halls, 75 manufacturers are presenting 310 vehicles and 42 buses under the Atomium for test drives. In total there are 530 exhibitors from 39 countries. The top three will be led by 96 exhibitors from Turkey, 78 from Germany and 54 from China and no less than 150 new suppliers. Between the stands a red carpet of 5 km was rolled out!

"The city of Brussels is unabashedly attracting more international attention," says Redgy Deschatse, chairman of Busworld Europe.

The transition from Kortrijk to Brussels went smoothly. Mieke Glorieux, director of Busworld: "With the exception of the location, the familiar concept of Busworld did not change at all. Atmosphere is immediately felt at home here." The familiar faces will also assist you in answering your questions. For assistance, Busworld continues to collaborate with Kortrijk Xpo, add to that the excellent reception of Brussels Expo and from day one we immediately felt at home here."

Internationalisation

As the area has grown, the number of exhibitors has grown and internationalisation has increased. Among the new participants is even MCV, the Egyptian bus manufacturer. The internationalisation is not only limited to manufacturers and suppliers, but the number of journalists has also increased exponentially. They come from all over the world. It is expected that more visitors from more countries will also visit Busworld. Mieke Glorieux: "Internationalisation started in the 1980s with the arrival of the Spaniards, followed by the Turks in the 1990s. After the Millennium, the Chinese made their appearance. After 2010, the Eastern Bloc and the Late-American and Asian countries followed."

First trambus with limited timetable on Belgian road network

BUSWORLD SHUTTLE FROM BRUSSELS AIRPORT

During Busworld Europe, from 17 to 23 October, Busworld, Van Hool and the Flemish public transport company De Lijn will provide a daily shuttle service between Brussels Airport and Brussels Expo. From 19 to 23 October, this shuttle service will be powered by Exqui.City 24 Diesel Hybrid trambuses from Van Hool, which is the first time that trambuses are operating in Belgium with a, albeit limited, regular timetable.

The Busworld Europe Shuttle departs from the bus parking at level 0 of Brussels Airport and transports guests in 45 minutes directly to Brussels Expo, without any stops on the way, at the main entrance (Keizerin Charlottelei).

On 17 and 18 October, the free passage of a 24-metre trambus on the route will be hindered by safety measures for the European summit of Heads of State and Government and conventional buses will be used instead on those days. From 19 to 23 October, the Exqui.City 24 Hybr tram-buses will be in service. The Busworld Europe Shuttle departs every half hour, both at Brussels Airport and at Brussels Expo.

On Friday 18 October the bus leaves Brussels Airport at 10.30h, 11.30h, 12.30h, 13.30h, 14.30h and 15.30h. The last ride back leaves Brussels Expo at 16.30h.

On Saturday 19, Sunday 20, Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 October the Exqui.City 24 Hybr trambuses depart at 9.30h, 10.30h, 11.30h, 12.30h, 13.30h, 14.30h, 15.30h and 16.30h in Brussels Expo. The last drive back from Brussels Expo will take place at 17.30h.

On Wednesday 23 October, the Exqui.City 24 Hybr tram-buses depart at 12.30h, 13.30h, 14.30h, 15.30h, 16.30h and 17.30h in Brussels Airport. The last drive back from Brussels Expo will take place at 18.30h.

Free access to the Brussels metro, tram and bus

If you have applied for a Busworld ticket in advance and you have received the corresponding code, you can purchase a "free event pass" at the vending machines of the Brussels transport company to travel to Brussels Expo free-of-charge by metro, tram or grey-coloured buses.

Breakfast buffet and debate on the import regulations for buses, components and services in the United States

We are happy to announce the launch of BUSWORLD NORTH AMERICA. At this occasion we kindly invite you for a BREAKFAST BUFFET and debate on the import regulations for buses, components and services in the United States, in the Seminar Area in Hall 3 (meeting room 326) on Saturday morning October 19th at 8:30.

Presentations will be made by Peter Pantuso, president and CEO of the American Bus Association and by Mr. Mike Sluppoki, expert in federal procurement procedures in the US. This debate targets all stakeholders with an interest in the North American bus market.

Morning: Welcome and introduction by Mr. Alexey Mozgovoy, Head of Future Energy, CNH Industrial

Breakfast buffet

10:00 - 10:15 Welcome by Mr. Alexey Mozgovoy, Head of Future Energy, CNH Industrial

10:15 - 10:30 Welcome by Jan Deman, Director Busworld Academy

10:30 - 10:45 Registration and coffee}

Programme block 1

10.45 - 11.00 Keynote speeches

11.00 - 11.15 Maja Bakran Marcich – Deputy Director, Project in Flanders – Zaventem Airport – Sabena

11.15 - 11.30 Christian Hoellinger – Head of Business Development, ACEA

11.30 - 11.45 Christian Linke – Managing Director, USH (Labbox)

11.45 - 12.00 Christian Linke – Managing Director, USH (Labbox)

12.00 - 12.15 Breakfast buffet and debate on the import regulations for buses, components and services in the United States

12.15 - 12.30 Keynote speeches

12.30 - 12.45 Dennis Mica – 2getthere

12.45 - 13.00 Christian Hoellinger – Head of Business Development, ACEA

13.00 - 13.15 Christian Linke – Managing Director, USH (Labbox)

13.15 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 13.45 Visit of the exhibition

Next step: Smobility

10:00-16:00 - Location: ROOM 32I, SEMINAR AREA HALL 3

Programme

10:00 - 10:15 Registration and coffee

10:15 - 10:30 Welcome by Jan Deman, Director Busworld Academy

10:30 - 10:45 Welcome and opening remarks

10:45 - 11:00 Keynote speeches

11:00 - 11:15 Maja Bakran Marcich – Deputy Director General, DG MOVE

11:15 - 11:30 Philippe Tabarot – Vice president de la Region Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur

11:30 - 11:45 Gas fuelling infrastructure: Time to deliver

11:45 - 12:00 Gas fuelling infrastructure is ready to deliver renewable gas without extra costs. This session gives you an overview about the European situation of CNG and LNG fuelling coverage and how fast renewable gas is reaching our vehicles.
Ten Busworld Awards were awarded in the bus and coach category. The Grand Award Bus went to the hydrogen-powered Van Hool Exqui.City 18, the Grand Award Coach went to the Volvo 9900. The jury ranked the Van Hool Futura FHD2-13S and the Van Hool EX11H 2nd and 3rd.

During this edition, the members of the jury observed some general trends. Yutong and, by extension, all Chinese manufacturers have made significant progress in general and already meet European standards in many areas. A second observation concerns the guide facilities. The Tour guide media have been greatly improved; the availability and user-friendliness of connections is improved: multimedia, wifi, laptop connection and mobile devices with screens and sound are improving significantly.

A third observation: cameras are replacing mirrors. This is beneficial for manoeuvring and safety reasons. Finally, the vehicles with an alternative powertrain (electric, gas, fuel cell) were all of a very similar quality and level.

**Grand Award Coach for Volvo 9900**

With its new 9900, Volvo wins through good scores on design, maintenance, ride quality, comfort and acceleration. Designed and built in Poland, the 9900 stands head and shoulders above the competition according to the jury.

Safety is another quality of this car. Also in this category the difference with the other vehicles is quite substantial, which yields Volvo the Safety Award once again. The jury was impressed by the passive & active safety automatically fire extinguishing system, black box system or on-board computer, the driver passive safety (energy absorption zone) and the passenger safety (light entrance and exit).

The COMFORT COACH Award goes to the double-decker Setra S531 DT and Van Hool EX11. Both ended ex-aequo. The Setra performs well on driver comfort, tour guide media & passenger environment and comfort. As far as the Tour guide media is concerned, everything is available. This is not the case for all vehicles.

The Van Hool EX11 performs well on vehicle ergonomics, driver ergonomics, touring guide comfort (space, extra micro) and media and passenger comfort. In addition, the audio system, the space between seats, the armrest between seats, leg space and the VIP set up also appealed to the jury.

The DESIGN COACH Award goes to the Chinese manufacturer YUTONG T11. The jury liked both the design of the exterior and the interior. The finishing and placement of the interior, equipment and components were very accurate.

The ECOLOGY COACH Award also goes to the Chinese manufacturer YUTONG T12. Yutong uses many recyclable materials in the interior (less plastic, etc., more metal). It was also the only electric vehicle in the coach category making it perform much better in terms of emissions than the other vehicles.